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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/764,083	01/19/2001	Masahiko Miyashita	Q62754	6805
7590	07/27/2006			EXAMINER
SUGHRUE, MION, ZINN, MACPEAK & SEAS 2100 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, DC 20037			SHIBRU, HELEN	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2621	

DATE MAILED: 07/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/764,083	MIYASHITA ET AL.
	Examiner HELEN SHIBRU	Art Unit 2621

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 May 2006.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on 19 January 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. The amendments, filed 05/09/2006, have been entered and made of record. Claims 1-18 are pending.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 04/13/06 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In response to the Applicant's argument that the cited reference of Kim fails to teach or suggest storage of decoded image information, the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Kim shows in fig.1 that data from the decoding unit of 130 are transfers to storage 160 and vice versa as indicated by the arrow. Therefore it is inherent that data are extracted from the decoding unit to the storage unit (see fig. 1).

In response to Applicant's argument that the cited reference of Kim fails to disclose "wherein the repetitive reproduction controlling device instructs the output controlling device to output the decoded image information in the repetition reproduction range and to acquire the decoded image information subsequent to the repetition reproduction range, when the repetitive reproduction controlling device is instructed to begin to perform the repetitive reproduction processing by the repetitive reproduction start instructing device", the Examiner respectfully disagrees. Kim recites in claim 1 f and g that replying the stored bit streams corresponding to the repetition interval as many times as the number of repetitions requested, and resuming playback of the video (see also page 12 lines 2-10).

The claimed invention does in fact read on the cited references for at least the reasons discussed above and as stated in the detail Office Action as follows. This Office action is now made Final.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

3. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.
4. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kim (GB 2, 328, 825).

Regarding claim 1, Kim discloses an information reproduction apparatus (see fig. 1) comprising:

a reading device which reads image information recorded in an information storage medium (see fig. 1 storage (160), fig. 2 playback video (S21), store video (S23), and page 6 lines 8-page 7 line 2)

a decoding device (see fig. 1 decoding (130) which decodes the image information read by the reading device (see claim 13, page 6 lines 8-11, and page 8 lines 16-23)),

a storage device which holds the decoded image information decoded by the decoding device so that the decoded image information can be read therefrom and written therein repeatedly (see page 6 line 20-page 7 line 2 and line 15-25, and claim 1);

an output controlling device which sequentially reads out and outputs the decoded image information in order of precedence at the time of writing the decoded image information while writing the decoded image information in a predetermined region of the storage device (see claim 1 b, claim 3, page 6 line 20-page 7 line 2 and lines 15-page 8 line 1);

a designating device which designates a repetitive reproduction start position indicating a start position of repetitive reproduction (see page 9 line 26-page 11 line 3);

a repetitive reproduction controlling device which controls a repetitive reproduction processing (see page 8 line 24-page 9 line 17);

a repetitive start instructing device which controls the repetitive reproduction controlling device to begin to perform the repetitive reproduction processing (see claim 1 and 2); and

a repetition reproduction range setting device which sets a repetition reproduction range that would include the decoded image information to be reproduced at one repetition reproduction and instructs the output controlling device to maintain the decoded image information in the repetition reproduction range, when the repetitive reproduction start position is designated by the designating device (see page 11 line 4-14, and claim 1 and 4),

wherein the repetitive reproduction controlling device instructs the output controlling device to output the decoded image information in the repetition reproduction range and to acquire the decoded image information subsequent to the repetition reproduction range, when the repetitive reproduction controlling device is instructed to begin to perform the repetitive reproduction processing by the repetitive reproduction start instructing device (see page 7 lines 3-14, page 8 line 24-page 9 line 5, page 12 lines 2-10 and claim 1 (g)).

Regarding claim 2, Kim discloses the repetition reproduction range setting device sets a range from a target position on the storage device, from which the decoded image information is read at the time when the start position is designated, as the repetition reproduction range, and instructs the output controlling device to use an area except the repetition reproduction range for

reading and writing area of the decoded image information, when the repetitive reproduction start position is designated (see claims 4-7), and

the repetitive reproduction controlling device instructs the output controlling device to begin to read out the decoded image information from the target position on the storage device to an end of the repetition reproduction range when the repetitive reproduction controlling device is instructed to begin to perform the repetitive reproduction, and instructs the reading device to read the decoded image information, the decoding device to decode the read image

information, and the output controlling device to write the decoded image information in the area except the repetition reproduction range, when the output controlling device is instructed to acquire the decoded image information subsequent to the repetition reproduction range (see page 9 line 26-page 12 line 10).

Regarding claim 3, Kim discloses repetitive reproduction range setting device sets the size of the repetition reproduction range so that both reading information corresponding to the decoded image information subsequent to the repetition reproduction range in the reading device and decoding the read image information in the decoding device can be completed while the decoded image information in the repetition reproduction range is outputted (see page 11 lines 4-24 and claim 10).

Regarding claim 4, Kim discloses the image information recorded on the information storage medium is video compression information that includes first image information for intra-frame encoding and second image information for performing forward and backward prediction (see fig. 3A and 3B and page 11 line 15-page 12 line1 and claim 14); and

the repetition reproduction range setting device instructs the output controlling device to maintain both the decoded image information that corresponds to one processing unit of the video compression information and the decoded image information that corresponds to the second image information immediately before the first image information that is first appeared in a processing unit subsequent to the one processing unit, as decoded image information in the repetition reproduction range (see page 11 line 15-page 12 line 16).

Method claims 5-8 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claims 1-4 above.

Regarding claim 9, Kim discloses the video compression information is information in accordance with an MPEG-2 (Moving Picture Expert Group 2) system (see page 6 lines 8-14).

Regarding claim 10, Kim discloses the image information is image compression information (see page 6 lines 8-14).

Claims 11 and 15 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 4 above.

Claims 12-13, and 16 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 9 above.

Claim 14 is rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 10 above.

Claims 17-18 are rejected for the same reason as discussed in claim 1 above.

Conclusion

5. THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL. Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO

MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to HELEN SHIBRU whose telephone number is (571) 272-7329. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F, 8:30AM-5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, THAI Q. TRAN can be reached on (571) 272-7382. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Helen Shibru



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Helen Shibru". To the right of the signature, the name is printed in a stylized, slanted font: "THAI Q. TRAN" on top and "PRIMARY EXAMINER" below it, both in capital letters.